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CLAIMS AND SPECIFICATION

ARTICLE ASSEMBLY

This application is a continuation of U.S. Utility Application 08/777,032, filed on 12/30/96. The earlier filing date of this application is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C 120.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The instant invention relates generally to holders which receive an article and more specifically it relates to an article assembly which may contain a combination of appealing qualities to a child.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRIOR ART

There are various advantages in storing an article in an upright position, and numerous patents have disclosed holders or stands for retaining an article in a vertical position when placed on a horizontal surface. For instance, U.S. Pat. 5,444,889 (Barre) discloses a toothbrush assembly including a toothbrush and a stand for holding the brush. The stand includes a cup portion having a cavity within, wherein the brush handle can be inserted. A pair of legs separate and unattached to one another support and are connected to the cup portion. Further included is a foot for each leg, each foot being connected to the lower end of the leg opposite the cup portion. The feet are also separate and unattached from one another. U.S. Pat. Des. 369,932 and U.S. Pat. Des. 370,147 (Petronio) discloses a toothbrush holder in the shape of a torso having a front and rear portion. The front portion includes a recess extending therethrough, wherein a brush handle can be inserted. Further included, extending from the front portion, is a pair of feet which are separate and unattached from one another. A tail section extends from the rear portion. While these units may be suitable for the particular purpose to which they address, they would not be suitable for the purposes of the present invention as heretofore described.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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A first object of the present invention is to provide an article assembly that will overcome the shortcomings of the prior art devices.

A second object is to provide an article assembly, comprising an article having a receivable end, and a stand for retaining the article when the stand is placed on a horizontal surface.

A third object is to provide an article assembly, in which the stand is releasably connected to the articles receiving end.

A forth object is to provide an article assembly, in which the stand is a pair of feet which are positioned together to form a continuous bottom supporting surface and a single heel portion, wherein the single heel portion includes a recess for selectively receiving the receivable end of the article therein.

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A fifth object is to provide an article assembly, in which a base is connected to the bottom side of the foot stand for providing additional stability to the foot stand.

A sixth object is to provide an article assembly, in which the base includes a recess extending therethrough and in alignment with the recess in the foot stand for additionally receiving the receivable end of the article therein, for providing additional stability to the foot stand and article.

A seventh object is to provide an article assembly, that is simple and easy to use.

An eight object is to provide an article assembly, that is economical in cost to manufacture.

Further objects of the invention will appear as the
description proceeds.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING FIGURES

Various other objects, features and attendant advantages of the present invention will become more fully appreciated as the same becomes better understood when considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

Sub → FIGURE 1 is a front exploded perspective view of the article assembly according to the present invention.

BT FIGURE 2 is a front exploded perspective view of the article assembly according to the present invention showing a base for the stand.

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With regard to FIGURES 1 and 2, the embodiment of the invention drawn shows an article 1 having a receivable end 2. A stand 5 is in the shape of first and second feet 6a and 6b. Each first and second feet 6a and 6b, are elongated to define a toe end and together a common heel end. First and second feet 6a and 6b are joined together and positioned together to form a continuous bottom supporting surface. The heel end of each first and second feet 6a and 6b, is positioned together to form a single heel portion 7. Single heel portion 7 includes a recess 8 extending through a top side thereof and towards a sole thereof for selectively receiving receivable end 2 of article 1 therein, thereby retaining article 1 when stand 5 is placed on a horizontal surface. First and second feet 6a and 6b each include a side surface, the side surfaces intersect one another in a common plane. The toe end of first and second feet 6a and 6b are at an acute angle to one another.

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If desired, a base 9 could be connected to a bottom side of stand 5 as shown in FIGURE 2. Base 9 may include a recess 10 extending therethrough and in alignment with recess 8 in stand 5 for additionally receiving receivable end 2 of article 1 therein, to provide additional stability to article 1 and stand 5.